

03-07-05

RCE
JW



Attorney Docket No. DDR-5455-Div (1417Y P 649)

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re U.S. Patent Application of)
)
BILSTAD, Arnold C., BUCHANAN, Bradley H.,)
MARTTILA, Alan W. and WOODWORTH, Archie))
)
Application No. 09/970,580)
Confirmation No. 2598)
)
Filing Date: October 4, 2001)
)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED)
COMPONENTS IN AN ACTIVE STERILE)
FIELD)

Group Art Unit: 1744
Examiner: Krisanne Marie Jastrzab

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

MAIL STOP RCE
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith is an Amendment and Reply to December 7, 2004 Office Action
Filed as Submission In Accordance With 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. A check in the amount of \$790.00
is enclosed for the RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e).

No additional claim fees are required as shown below:

					Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid For	Present Extra		Rate	Additional Fee	Rate	Additional Fee
Total	16 -	25 =	0		x \$25=	\$0	1 x \$50=	\$0
Independent	1 -	4 =	0		x \$100=	\$0	3 x \$200=	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claims					x \$180=	0	x \$360=	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE								\$0

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790.00 OP

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

- X Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 for the presentation of extra Claims.
X Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 4, 2005

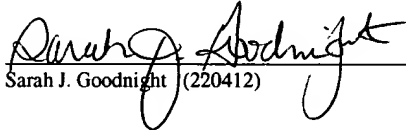
By: 

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Date of Deposit: March 4, 2005

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Sarah J. Goodnight (220412)